GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:525
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
INCREASE IN SUPPLY OF CEREALS UNDER PDS
PUTTASWAMY GOWDA

Will the Minister of CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether a number of States have been requesting the Union Government for increasedsupply of cereals under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details of such States as on January 31, 2001; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS, FOOD AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI CHAUHAN)

(a), (b) & (c) : Under Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) introduced fromJune, 1997, rice and wheat are allotted to States/UTs as per TPDS guidelines.On requests received from States/UTs, additional allocation of rice and wheat are also given, over and above the normal allocations, at central issue price applicable to above poverty line (APL)families or the rates under open market sale scheme whichever are lower.

State Governments of Sikkim, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu have requested recently for increased allocation of rice/wheat under TPDS. The details of these requests and reaction of the Government of India thereon are as under:-

1. Sikkim: Government of Sikkim requested for allocation of 500 tonnes of wheat at rates applicable to below poverty line (BPL) families. The request has not been acceded to because under TPDS, rice and wheat are allotted at BPL rates within the quantum of BPL allocation fixed for a State under TPDS guidelines.The Government of Sikkim did not opt for any wheat out of their BPL allocation of foodgrains.

2. Mizoram: As requested by Government of Mizoram an additional quantity of 1000 tonnes of wheat per month is being allotted to the State at APL rate from January 2001 over and above their normal monthly allocation under TPDS.

3. Tamil Nadu: Government of Tamil Nadu has requested for allotment of 20,000 tonnes of wheat every month at BPL rate under PDS without insisting upon deduction of equal quantity of BPL rice from the allocation of rice. The request can not be acceded to because under TPDS, rice and wheat are allotted at BPL rates within the quantum of allocation fixed for aState under TPDS guidelines and BPL allocation can not be altered for any State in isolation.